

# THE RICKMAN REPORT

## NEWS FROM DISTRICT 5



**WATCH NOW**



### Celebrating 175 Years of South San Joaquin County!

This year marks a remarkable milestone, 175 years of “Growing Greatness” in San Joaquin County! From our deep agricultural roots to our thriving communities, this anniversary honors the people, progress, and partnerships that have shaped our county’s proud history.

Throughout the year, I’ve had the privilege of joining residents across the county to celebrate this historic milestone.

Tracy kicked off the festivities with a vibrant community event highlighting tradition and growth.

Ripon followed with a celebration rich in small-town pride and agricultural heritage.

Escalon honored its story with heartfelt reflections and true hometown spirit.

And finally, Mountain House concluded our anniversary year with a celebration that showcased its vibrant neighborhoods and the community pride that fills every community event.

These moments remind us why San Joaquin County is such a special place to live and raise our families — the friendships, traditions, and shared pride that connect us all. Together, we will honor our past, celebrate our future, and continue to stay South County Strong.

— Supervisor Robert Rickman



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### HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Thanksgiving reminds us to cherish the moments and the people who bring warmth to our lives. Wishing you a joyful holiday surrounded by family, friends, and love.

# COUNTY HIGHLIGHTS

NOVEMBER 2025

ISSUE #9

## County Opens Satellite Passport Office in Lathrop

Our expanded Lathrop satellite office is now an authorized U.S. Passport Acceptance Facility, offering application processing and photo services. This gives south county families a closer and easier place to take care of their passport needs, saving time and travel.

The office is open Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., by appointment only. To schedule, call 209 941 5051. An online system is in the works and will be available soon.

More information is available at the Assessor Recorder County Clerk's website [here](#).



## County Strengthens Flood Readiness with \$10.8 Million in Housing Recovery Funds

The Manufactured Home Replacement and Elevation Program is helping families hit hard by the 2022 to 2023 winter floods. The program provides grants to replace or elevate damaged manufactured homes, giving residents a safer foundation and a stronger chance of weathering future storms.

Eligible homeowners in San Joaquin County can receive up to \$500,000 per unit. Homes must be owner occupied, applicants must report any disaster assistance already received, and income limits apply for very-low, low, and moderate-income households.

Self Help Enterprises is administering the program for the State. To learn more or apply, call 559.802.1647.



## Sikh Americans Awareness & Appreciation Month in San Joaquin County

I was pleased to bring forth a proclamation recognizing our Sikh community here in San Joaquin County. I am proud to recognize our Sikh Community, which has a long and proud storyline in America's history and enriches our communities with uplifting and unifying cultural heritage traditions.



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reporting system to report  
issues such as illegal  
dumping, potholes,  
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Available in the app store



## SJCARES

Homeless  
Response Team

[sjcares@sjgov.org](mailto:sjcares@sjgov.org)



Sign up for  
emergency alerts at  
[www.sjready.org](http://www.sjready.org)

# COUNTY HIGHLIGHTS *(CONTINUED)*

## South County Regional Park Town Hall Meeting

I recently opened the town hall meeting aimed at introducing the vision for the future South County Park and to solicit community input. The County will work collaboratively with the public to ensure that the planned park is not only a destination for recreation, but also a hub for education and gathering, promoting a healthier and more active lifestyle for all ages.



The plan is to transform approximately 100 acres into a vibrant new regional park. This land, situated on the northern edge of Tracy, between North Tracy Boulevard and the Delta area (known as the Sugar Cut), offers a perfect location to complement nearby parks, such as Legacy Fields. The new South County Regional Park will be designed to enhance the well-being of our community by providing a space where residents can connect with nature, learn, play, and celebrate.

**Subscribe to Updates:** [Join Our E-mail List](#)

**Submit comments:** [Parks@sjgov.org](mailto:Parks@sjgov.org)

## LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY: MAKING YOUR VOICE HEARD

### New Tracy Courthouse and Restoration of Services

Earlier this year, the County wrote to our state legislators urging them to support the Governor's (January) proposed 2025-26 budget, which included \$2.9 million in one-time General Fund support for the new Tracy Courthouse. The proposed funding would have started this capital outlay project to construct a new two-courtroom courthouse that would replace four existing, vacant court facilities. However, the Legislative Analyst's Office recommended that the Legislature redirect the proposed funding to projects in other counties. As a result, the proposal was withdrawn, and commencement of the Tracy Courthouse project for the Superior Court of San Joaquin County was deferred to a future fiscal year.

At the beginning of this month, I submitted a letter urging the Governor's support for inclusion of funding for the New Tracy Courthouse project – designated as an “immediate needs” project – in his upcoming fiscal year proposed budget. [You may view my letter here.](#)

# Critical Resources

24/7 Mental Health Crisis Phone Line  
209-468-8686

24/7 Peer Support Warmline  
209-468-3585

Suicide Hotline  
1-800-SUICIDE  
(784-2433)

Institute for Aging Friendship Line  
1-800-971-0016

Veterans' Crisis Line  
1-800-273-8255

Local Resources  
211



Visit  
[www.sjgov.org](http://www.sjgov.org)  
View past or upcoming  
Board meeting materials or  
watch a Board meeting.

## LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY *(CONTINUED)*

### Federal Government Shutdown

In response to the Federal government shutdown, I wrote to our federal delegation.

[You may view my letter here](#)

Our County departments have implemented proactive measures to fill gaps and minimize impacts to our residents in need. There are 131,891 CalFresh recipients in San Joaquin County, or 65,903 households and our County Human Services Agency (HSA) issues \$25 million in CalFresh benefits monthly.

HSA coordinated internally with local partners to prepare for increased public concern and foot traffic at its County offices as residents sought information and assistance. HSA initiated enhanced food purchases to be distributed to the community through partner agencies for qualifying individuals.

Qualifying individuals were directed to food distribution sites [here](#).

The California Department of Social Services posted a Frequently Asked Questions page [here](#).

### California Association of Councils of Governments Board Fall Meeting

I am proud to represent San Joaquin County on the California Association of Councils of Governments (CALCOG) as an ancillary duty of my representation of the San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJCOG) Board of Directors. We met for this year's Fall Board meeting the first week of November. CALCOG is a member association that serves 49 regional public agencies throughout the state. This organization provides opportunities for us to work and interact with our counterparts throughout the state.

Earlier this year, SJCOG accepted CALCOG's Eureka Award recognizing its Stockton Mobility Collective. The Eureka! recognizes regional projects or programs from agencies of various sizes that represent an innovation and the creative leadership and thinking needed to develop and implement new ideas that can serve as examples or best practices for others to follow.



## TRACY

- Tracy Hills Designated National Firewise Community
- Osaic Wealth Inc. Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
- Red Carpet Award Ceremony honoring Anti-Bullying Month
- Tracy War Memorial Association, Veterans Day Ceremony
- Backyard Battleground Boxing Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
- Central Valley Association of Realtors Guest Speaker
- Sunrise Rotary Club of Tracy Senior Thanksgiving Dinner
- Downtown Tracy Ornament Stroll



## RIPON

- Ripon Monthly Business Meeting
- Ripon Rotary Club Guest Speaker
- Veterans Day Ceremony
- Chamber Mixer & Ribbon Cutting for Primerica
- Chamber Mixer hosted by Bank of Stockton & Hospice of San Joaquin



## MOUNTAIN HOUSE

- Salute to Service Veterans Day Luncheon
- Guest of Honor Grand Diwali and Karthik Celebration's
- San Joaquin County 175th Anniversary City of Mountain House Celebrates
- Mountain House Primetime Seniors - Friendsgiving Potluck



## ESCALON

- Weekly District Office Hours and Business Check-In (Inspired Designs)
- American Legion Post 263 Veterans Day Ceremony and BBQ lunch
- Escalon C.A.R.E. Food Drive – Stuff the Bus Event
- Small Business Saturday & Main Street Holiday Market



## COUNTYWIDE MEETINGS AND EVENTS (PARTIAL LIST)

- 20th Annual Construction Trades Career Fair
- Restore the Delta, Defender of Wildlife, and Golden State Salmon Association Delta Briefing
- CALCOG Fall Board Meeting
- San Joaquin Sheriff Department - Correctional Officer Class 184- Graduation Ceremony
- SJC Historical Society and Museum Century Business Dinner
- Amtrak San Joaquin/Gold Runner Rebrand and Launch Event
- Ava Board of Directors Meeting
- SJGOG Executive Committee Meeting
- San Joaquin Superior Court, Veterans Court Graduation 2025
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual 209 Turkey Giveaway



# PUBLIC OUTREACH INFORMATION

## Ava Community Energy: Public Comment Period for proposed 2025-2026 Mid-Year Value Proposition – Webinars scheduled for 11/25 & 12/4.

Ava Community Energy is the local public agency responsible for procuring electricity for residents and businesses in the cities of Tracy, Lathrop, and Stockton, as well as those in Alameda County. Ava will begin serving San Joaquin County's unincorporated communities in 2026.

As part of Ava's commitment to transparency and public participation, the agency will be hosting a public comment period (including two webinars) regarding proposed changes to electricity rates in 2026. For more details and to register, please click on the link [[link to Ava rate page](#)].

### Attend an Online Webinar

- Thursday, December 4, 2025, at 11 am | Register for the 12/4 webinar

### Submit a Written Comment

Written comments may be emailed to [PublicComment@AvaEnergy.org](mailto:PublicComment@AvaEnergy.org). Written comments shall not exceed 1,500 words. Please provide your written comments no later than 8:00 am on Monday, December 8, 2025. A summary of public comments received will be part of the report to the Board on Wednesday, December 17, 2025.

## Mariposa Rd/Escalon-Bellota Specific Plan - Community Meeting #2

The cities of Stockton and Escalon, and the surrounding unincorporated San Joaquin County, are experiencing increased development and a growing population, resulting in increased travel along the Mariposa Road and Escalon Bellota Road corridor. This plan aims to assess and develop both interim and long-term improvements along the corridor.

San Joaquin County invites you to attend the second Community Workshop for the Mariposa Road and Escalon-Bellota Road Specific Plan on:

**When:** Monday, December 8, 2025

**Time:** 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

**Where:** Escalon Community Center, 1055 Escalon Avenue, Escalon

Learn more and register (optional): [bit.ly/MariposaRd](https://bit.ly/MariposaRd)

Project details: [sjgov.org/meb-plan](https://sjgov.org/meb-plan)

